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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2013

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/68/438)*]

68/205. World Wildlife Day

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto, under the section "Criteria for the proclamation of international years", as well as paragraphs 13 and 14 under section II of the annex, which stipulate that a year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Reaffirming also the intrinsic value of wildlife and its various contributions, including its ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic contributions to sustainable development and human well-being,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[5] and the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[6]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Please recycle

Recognizing the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[7] in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the species' survival,

Taking note of the outcome of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Bangkok from 3 to 14 March 2013, in particular its resolution 16.1 designating 3 March as World Wildlife Day, in order to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora,

Recalling its resolution 67/189 of 20 December 2012, in which it expressed deep concern about environmental crimes, including trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and emphasized the need to combat such crimes by strengthening international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recalling also the Convention on Biological Diversity[8] and all its objectives, and recalling that, in its resolution 65/161 of 20 December 2010, the General Assembly declared the decade 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 3 March, the day of the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, [7] as World Wildlife Day;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other global, regional and subregional organizations, as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe and raise awareness of World Wildlife Day in an appropriate manner, in accordance with national priorities;

3. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, and that such activities would be subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, in collaboration with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to facilitate the implementation of World Wildlife Day, and, mindful of the provisions of paragraphs 23 to 27 under section IV of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-first session about the implementation of the present resolution, elaborating, inter alia, on the evaluation of the Day.

71st plenary meeting
20 December 2013

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.